

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application in light of the above amendments is courteously solicited.

Claim 20 has been cancelled thereby rendering the examiner's rejection of same under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph moot. The dependency of claims 17, 18, 21 and 22 have been corrected so as to depend from independent claim 15 thereby rendering the examiner's claim objections moot.

In light of the indication of allowance of claims 15 and 23 through 25 and the indication of allowability of claims 17-19, 21 and 22, the instant application is now in condition for allowance and an early indication of same is respectfully requested.

An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

It is submitted that the claims as amended herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and early allowance of same is courteously solicited.

Applicant encloses herewith a check in the amount of \$1900.00 to cover the fee for a three (3) month extension of time request, petition fee and an RCE application.

The PTO did not receive the following
listed item(s) check

If any additional fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

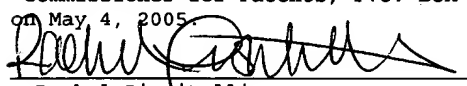
Hubert Koch

By 

Gregory W. LaPointe
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 28,395
Tel: (203) 777-6628
Fax: (203) 865-0297

Date: May 4, 2005

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
"Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313"
on May 4, 2005.


Rachel Pisotelli